The Thirty Commandments of Classroom Etiquette for Teachers

THOU SHALT . . .

- . . . treat all students with patience and respect
- ... listen to thy students
- . . . avoid sarcasm
- ... encourage students to ask questions when they don't understand
- ... take the time to explain things
- ... keep thy personal likes and dislikes from affecting studentteacher relationships
- ... empathize with the pains and pressures of adolescence
- . . . treat students as individuals
- . . . expect the best, not the worst, from students
- . . . model tolerance and compassion
- . . . allow students to go to the bathroom
- ... reward responsibility with extra privileges
- ... treat boys and girls equally
- . . . make corny jokes at thine own risk
- ... use breath mints.

THOU SHALT NOT . . .

- ... ignore students
- . . . talk down to students
- . . . accuse students based only on suspicions
- . . . punish the whole class because of one person
- . . . call on students just to embarrass them
- . . . make fun of students in front of the whole class
- . . . prejudice other teachers' opinions of a student
- ... invade a student's privacy
- ... play favorites
- . . . keep students after class just to inconvenience them
- . . . take thine own personal problems out on students
- . . . assume the worst without letting a student offer an explanation
- . . . judge students before getting to know them
- . . . assume that all students who pass gas are doing it on purpose
- ... condescend.

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The Thirty Commandments of Classroom Etiquette for Students

THOU SHALT ...

- ... listen to thy teacher
- ... think before speaking
- ... clean up after thyself
- ... come to class prepared
- . . . raise thy hand to be called upon
- ... be respectful of other people's
- ... compliment each other
- ... remove thy hat in class
- . . . address thy classmates and teachers with kindness and respect
- . . . keep thy hands and feet to thyself
- ... say "Please," "Thank you,"
 "Excuse me," and "I'm sorry"
- . . . find another response for displeasure besides anger
- . . . work diligently in class, even if thou must pretend to be interested in a subject or assignment
- ... talk directly to the person with whom thou hast a conflict, rather than to everyone else
- . . . remember that teachers have feelings, too.

THOU SHALT NOT ...

- ... bully others
- ... be physically or verbally aggressive
- ... sexually harass others
- ... ignore a reasonable request
- . . . talk when a teacher or classmate is talking
- ... take another's property without permission
- ... backbite or spread rumors
- . . . put people down to look cool
- . . . interfere with each other's learning
- ... act bored or fall asleep in class
- ... make hurtful comments about another person's looks, abilities, background, family, ethnic heritage, or sexual orientation
- . . . pressure others into doing things that are mean, harmful, or illegal
- ... have an attitude
- . . . belch or pass gas on purpose
- . . . cause the chalk to squeak.

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